Mark Austin 1850-1950 Centennial Biography

Mark Austin, son of John and Emma Grace Austin, was born October 3, 1864 in Studham, Bedfordshire, England. He immigrated to Utah with his parents, in 1868, and located at Lehi, where he was baptized a member of the Latter-day Saint Church in 1872, by Mona Anderson and confirmed a member by Abel John Evans the same day. He was ordained later to the Aaronic Priesthood and then to the Melchizedek Priesthood respectively as Elder, Seventy and High Priest.

He filled the following positions: Missionary to Great Britain; Bishop of the Sugar Ward in Idaho; First Counselor to the Stake President of the Fremont Stake in Idaho; and later President of that Stake. This service was given over a period of 21 years. Later he was appointed a member of the Sunday School Union Board, and also first counselor in the presidency of the the Latter-day Saints Salt Lake Temple and was a member of the general committee of the Church Welfare. Mr. Austin was also President of the Board at Ricks College.

Mr. Austin married Maria Brain Vaughn in the Logan Temple, March 31, 1887. There have been born to them seven splendid children. All are living except one that died in infancy. All were married in the Temple except one who is not married. All have filled missions except one. They are all active and faithful in the Church.

His first twenty years was spent farming and market gardening with his father and for himself. About the next fifty years were spent in the Sugar business with his brothers George and Heber, under the able management of Bishop Thomas S. Cutler, most of the time in the following places: Utah, Idaho, Washington, Montana and Canada.